

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

Claims 1-21 are pending in the application. The Applicants have amended claim 9. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claims 1-8 and 11-21.

3.) Claim Objections

In paragraph 1 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 9-10 due to an informality in claim 9. The Examiner required that the phrase "the steps of claim 1" in lines 5-6 be replaced with the actual steps of claim 1. The Applicant has amended claim 9 to delete the phrase "the steps of claim 1" and substitute a reference to the actual steps. Therefore, the withdrawal of the objection of claim 9 and dependent claim 10 is respectfully requested.

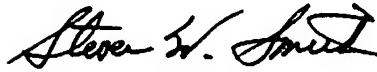
Claims 9-10 depend from allowed claim 1. Therefore, the allowance of amended claim 9 and dependent claim 10 is respectfully requested.

4.) Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-21.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven W. Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steven" and last name "Smith" clearly distinguishable.

Steven W. Smith
Registration No. 36,684

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